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# AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB

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## 5 Interesting Facts About Your Dog's Teeth

By Deidre Grieves

According to a veterinary study, dental disease is one of the most common disorders reported by veterinarians. Another study estimates that 80 percent of dogs will develop some form of periodontal disease by the age of 2.

Regular dog dental care is recommended by veterinarians, but few pet owners actually brush their dogs' teeth. According to a study conducted by Ipsos, just 7 percent of dog owners polled reported brushing their dog's teeth daily.

"Just as with people a hundred years ago, we used to think that tooth loss was a normal aging change," says Dr. Milinda Lommer, a board-certified veterinary dentist who practices at Aggie Animal Dental Center in Mill Valley, California. "Now we know that tooth loss is the direct result of a disease process and it is not normal."

To better understand how to care for dog teeth, it's important to understand the makeup of dog teeth and how to best ensure dog tooth health. Here are some facts you probably didn't know about dog teeth.

### Facts About Dog Teeth

#### 1. Dogs Go Through Two Sets of Teeth in Their Lifetime

Just like people have baby teeth, dogs have puppy teeth that are later replaced, says Dr. Donald Beebe, a board-certified specialist in veterinary dentistry and the hospital director at Apex Dog and Cat Dentistry in Englewood, Colorado.

"Puppy teeth—also known as deciduous teeth or milk teeth—work much like an adult dog's teeth but on a smaller scale," he says. "Starting around 4 months of age and extending to around 6 months of age, the deciduous teeth begin to exfoliate. Compared to human children, in which the process takes place over years, in puppies, the transition is very rapid, over a matter of weeks."

Dr. Beebe says that puppies lose their teeth in a way similar to human children—they become loose and eventually fall out. The root of the tooth is then naturally absorbed into the gums, he says.

#### 2. Adult Dogs Have More Teeth Than Humans

Dr. Beebe explains that puppies have only about 28 deciduous dog teeth that they shed to make way for permanent adult dog teeth.

"Adult dogs have 42 teeth. Most people have 32," he says. "In comparison, adult cats have 30 teeth."

Dr. Beebe says that adult dog teeth begin to form before birth. "Later in life, they erupt into position as their deciduous counterparts are shed," he says.

#### 3. Dogs Use Their Teeth Differently Than Humans

While the makeup and chemical structure of dog teeth is similar to those of human teeth, the size and shape of dog teeth are where the biggest differences come into play.

"The most prominent teeth are the long and pointy canines," Dr. Beebe says. "They are used for grasping, lifting, pulling and potentially for defense. Further back in the mouth, the large carnassial teeth are designed to shear against one another, to provide a slicing action."

"This is in contrast to human teeth, which typically grind against one another to pulverize food. Dogs can't really smash up their food like people because their teeth are not designed that way," explains Dr. Beebe.

#### 4. Canine Teeth Root Structure Differs a Bit From Humans

"Canine root structures are similar to human root structures except that in dogs, the three upper molars have two roots, whereas the two lower molars have three roots," says Dr. Lisa Lippman, a veterinarian based in New York City.

Additionally, the roots of a dog's tooth are long, adds Dr. Lommer. "Most people are surprised by how long the roots are," she says. "The visible crown is usually only about one-third the length of the tooth. For incisor teeth, the crowns are only about one-fourth the length of the tooth."

#### 5. Cavities in Dog Teeth Are Extremely Rare

Because the bacteria in a dog's mouth are different from the bacteria in a human's mouth, cavities in dogs don't happen often.

"Cavities are caused by specific bacteria that live on flat surfaces of teeth and metabolize sugars into acid," says Dr. Lommer. "Dogs don't usually consume as much sugar as humans do, and the species of bacteria that causes cavities are very rare in dogs' mouths."

Dr. Beebe explains that when cavities occur in dogs, they are usually caused by sweet treats such as bananas or sweet potatoes. "The treatment for cavities in dogs is the same as for people," he says. "The diseased tooth structure is removed and replaced with a composite filling."

### Dog Teeth: Signs of Dental Disease

Pet parents should watch for signs of periodontal disease in dogs. If you notice any signs of dental or gum disease, you should consult your veterinarian for care tips.

"Most dog owners don't recognize that their dogs have a problem until the disease has progressed to an advanced stage," says Dr. Beebe. "Further, dogs instinctively try to hide any **TEETH...cont'd on p. 2**

**The deadline  
for the May issue is  
April 10**

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# LOOK

Please let me know if you make a change

\* **DECALS & PINS.** You can get **AMSC decals (\$1.00)** and **replacement pins (\$7.50)** from

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Report all changes to the Roster to

**treasurer@AMSC.us**

**Bonnie Keyes**  
**511 River Terrace**  
**Endicott, NY 13760**  
**(607)742-3828**

**The log in information for the Members section is as follows:**

Password is: **2020Schnauzer**

It IS case sensitive.

Here's the link to the Members Section:

<http://amsc.us/members-log-in>

Please write down or save the User Name and Password as there is quite a bit of pertinent information in our Members Section.

## DOG's TEETH...from p. 1

pain or discomfort to avoid showing weakness, making it even harder to recognize a problem is present."

Signs of periodontal disease in dogs, according to Dr. Beebe and Dr. Lippman, include:

Red gums  
Bleeding gums  
Plaque  
Bad breath  
Blood in water or food bowls  
Thick saliva  
Favoring one side of the mouth  
Dropping food while eating  
Facial swelling  
Rubbing the face with the paws or on the floor

### Dog Teeth: Tips for Care

"Brushing your dog's teeth is the first defense against gum disease," says Dr. Lippman. "Daily cleanings, coupled with occasional professional cleanings at your vet, will do a lot to keep gum disease at bay."

### What Can I Use for Dog Toothpaste?

For brushing dog teeth at home, pet parents can try the Vetoquinol Vet Solutions enzadent enzymatic toothbrush kit for adult dogs or the Nylabone advanced oral care dental kit for puppies. These dog dental kits come with a dog toothbrush and dog toothpaste specially designed to care for canine teeth.

To keep plaque at bay, easy-to-use dog dental wipes, like Petkin fresh mint dog plaque tooth wipes, may assist in getting rid of daily residue. You can also help freshen your dog's breath with a water additive, like the TropiClean fresh breath water additive, which is formulated to prevent tartar buildup and promote overall oral health.

And, if you want to keep your pet's teeth healthy between brushings and veterinary dental cleanings, try using dog dental chews or treats, such as Greenies dental dog treats or Dr. Lyon's dental dog treats. These dog dental treats help to fight plaque and tartar buildup as well as work to freshen your dog's breath.

Another great option is VetriScience Perio Support powder, which is a natural enzymatic cleaner for dogs and is simply added to their food daily.

**WORD TO THE WISE.....**  
**Be true to your teeth**  
**or they will be false to**  
**you!**

## TROPHIES

Dear AMSC Member,  
The 2020 show year is here and the AMSC trophy committee is once again soliciting support from our members.

Trophies are an important acknowledgement of success! Our committee is implementing changes that we hope will excite our members, exhibitors and winners. We are asking that you take a few moments to make a contribution to help defray the costs associated with procuring trophies for our national and roving conformation specialties with limited companion and performance trophy support. Additionally, AMSC is providing supported entry trophies this year for the prestigious Morris & Essex show.

Generous donors like you are the key to our success and make it possible for the AMSC to provide the earned recognition these awards provide to deserving breeders, owners, handlers, and their canine companions. We hope that we can count on your support to help us meet our 2020 goal of \$4,500.

### Standard Bearer Donation Levels:

Titanium - \$250+  
Platinum - \$100.00 - \$249.99  
Gold - \$50.00 - \$99.99  
Silver - \$25.00 - \$49.99  
Pewter - Up to \$24.99

Your donation will be acknowledged in show catalogs to recognize your generosity to this worthy cause. Please mail your donation to:

AMSC Trophy Fund  
? Bonnie Keyes, Treasurer  
511 River Terrace  
Endicott, NY 13760-5054

Please be certain to note TROPHY FUND in the memo section of your check to guarantee the to pledge your support. You may also donate online using PayPal. This link <https://www.amsc.us/trophy-donations/> will take you to the trophy donation area of the club website.

We thank you for your time and consideration. If you have already made a donation, thank you very much!

Sincerely,  
Your Trophy Committee  
Amy Gordon and Barbara Donahue

## 7 Mistakes That Could Cause Weight Gain in Dogs and Cats

By Diana Bocco

Has some extra weight snuck up on your dog or cat recently? If your pup is looking a little on the plump side, it's possible that you are the culprit.

Here are seven common pet parent mistakes that could pile the pounds on your furry one.

### You're "Guestimating" How Much to Feed

If you're not measuring your dog's food and instead just filling the dog bowl, there's simply no way to know if you're overfeeding or not.

"When I ask owners how much they feed, most have no idea," says holistic veterinarian Dr. Judy Morgan, DVM, who regularly lectures and writes on pet nutrition topics. "When I use a measuring cup and actually show them what 1 cup of food looks like, they are amazed."

If you're using a cup, fistful or bowl to scoop out the food, Dr. Morgan suggests switching right now to a measuring cup, before you make any other changes. Read the bag to find out how much you should be feeding your dog or cat based on his ideal weight, or ask your vet if you're not sure. Then use a proper measuring cup so you can feed the correct amount every time.

For both dogs and cats, leaving food out all day can also lead to overeating. If you're gone for long periods of time during the day, consider using a portion control programmable feeder, like the Aspen Pet LeBistro pet feeder, so your pet still has access to food, but only in the right amounts.

### You're Adding an Extra Treat Here or There

Dogs need approximately 20-30 calories per pound of body weight per day, according to Dr. Morgan. "If you consider a 20-pound dog, for example, the average caloric daily requirement will only be around 500 calories; maybe only 400 if pretty sedentary," says Dr. Morgan. "Some store-bought treats can be very high in calories, and many are filled with sugar."

Unfortunately, the calorie content of some treats is out of control, according to Dr. Justin Shmalberg, DVM, one of less than 100 board-certified veterinary nutritionists in the country. "I routinely see treats, especially dog biscuits, make up more than one third of a dog's overall daily caloric needs," says Dr.

Shmalberg.

A good example of this is a 50-pound dog, who, according to Dr. Shmalberg, should eat an average of about 1000 calories per day, but gets much more than that because of dog treats. "A medium-sized dog biscuit can contain about 40 calories, and it's not uncommon for some people to give five of those biscuits to their dog per day," Dr. Shmalberg says. "That's a 20 percent higher intake than what's needed; over the course of a year, this could easily add pounds of fat to a dog's body."

If you're using dog treats as a way to keep your dog entertained between meals, consider switching to something like the Outward Hound Fun Feeder Interactive Dog Bowl, which challenges your dog to work for his food and slows down eating, keeping him busy for longer.

### You're Forgetting to Account for Training Treats

In general, you don't want more than 10 percent of a pet's daily calories coming from treats, and you want those treat calories accounted for in your daily targets, says Dr. Shmalberg. "You can use a bigger treat so long as you break it up, and you are aware of the overall number of calories in each treat, so that you can keep track of what you're feeding," Dr. Shmalberg adds.

When choosing treats for training, Dr. Morgan points out you should be reading labels to find a treat that's low in calories, as you'll probably be giving many of them throughout a training session. "PureBites is a treat that is very low-calorie, contains dried meats and organs, and is easy to break into small bits," Dr. Morgan says.

### You're Suddenly Walking Your Dog Less

Switching to walking your dog once around the block instead of twice might not seem like a big deal, but it might leave you with a chubbier pup. "We know that the amount of calories used during walking is proportional to the distance traveled, so it's better to look at distance rather than time," says Dr. Shmalberg. "If you cut the distance in half, you're also cutting the calories burned in half."

The bad news for pet parents everywhere is that exercise can't substitute for portion control or caloric restriction in overweight animals, according to Dr. Shmalberg. So while cutting exercise sessions short can

result in weight gain, increasing activity probably won't make much of a difference if your dog is already chubby.

"I was involved in a study that looked at dogs doing relatively intense exercise on an underwater treadmill at a trotting speed," Dr. Shmalberg says. "We found that 30 minutes of exercise only resulted in a daily increase in how many calories were consumed by about 5 percent—that's better than nothing, but an overall small impact."

### You're Feeding Low-Quality Food

Low-quality dog food can absolutely cause weight gain, according to Dr. Morgan.

Unfortunately, Dr. Shmalberg emphasizes that there isn't a single specific ingredient that experts can malign and identify as the sole culprit of pet weight gain. "It's really just a mismatch between what a pet needs and the number of calories that pet is given," says Dr. Shmalberg.

A well-balanced, high-quality pet food is always the best choice. When in doubt, talk to your veterinarian about your pet's specific nutritional needs.

### You're Not Using Prescription Foods (When You Need To)

Prescription dog food, like Hill's Prescription Diet r/d Weight Reduction dog food, and prescription cat food could be a good move if your dog or cat is already overweight.

"Weight management diets often have published research studies showing that they cause pets, specifically dogs, to lose weight, but that doesn't mean they're the only diet that will be effective," says Dr. Shmalberg. "The need for these diets should be evaluated by a pet's veterinarian, who can give targeted advice based on an individual pet's goals."

Prescription dog food is not the right choice for every pet, however. Dr. Shmalberg points out many of these diets are high in fiber, and this can make some of them less palatable, especially if your pet is used to treats and table scraps.

### You're Being Too Generous With Table Scraps

People food is not always a bad thing, as long as you pick the right kind and feed it in moderate amounts—but most pet parents

**WEIGHT GAIN...from p. 3**

probably don't. "I'm fine with the dog having an egg, as long as 75-100 calories are deducted from the processed food fed that day," says Dr. Morgan. "The down side of table scraps is when the fatty trimmings from meat, gravies and high-calorie, unhealthy scraps are fed."

Dr. Shmalberg is also a big proponent of fresh foods (including steamed vegetables) and even other people foods, but all in moderation. "A 10-pound Chihuahua, for example, should be fed an average of about 280 calories per day," says Dr. Shmalberg. "If his parent sneaks in half a slice of deli meat or maybe a quarter of a Polish sausage, that's 50-60 calories—20 percent more than he needs."

Something else to keep in mind is that in addition to causing weight gain, table scraps can also cause other issues. "High-fat ingredients ... will contribute to pancreatitis and hemorrhagic gastroenteritis," Dr. Morgan says.

## 2020 Roving Specialty Sacramento April 11, 2020

The Miniature Schnauzer Club of Northern California will hold its Specialty on Friday.

The Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club and the MSCl of Southern California will support the entry on Thursday and Sunday.

This will make for 4 days of Miniature Schnauzer Competition.

**HOTEL INFO**

Double Tree by Hilton April 8-12  
Cal Expo AMS block  
2001 Point West Way \$139.00/night  
Sacramento, CA 95815 \$50.00 non-refundable pet fee  
916-929-8855

Since Cal Expo has restrictions on bringing in food and beverages, snacks, coffee, and light lunch will be available at local Miniature Schnauzer Clubs' motorhomes in the parking lot (which is right next to the building) before and after Saturday's AMSC Specialty."

**MEET'N'GREET**

**Friday, April 10, 6:00 PM**

Guests \$15.00 per person prepaid using PayPal on AMSC website, or \$20.00 at the door.

**MENU**

Fresh Fruit Presentation Selection of Sliced  
Fresh Seasonal Fruits with Chocolate  
Dipping Sauce  
Deli Platter| Turkey, Ham, Smoked Sausage  
and Salami with Sliced Swiss, Cheddar, and  
Pepper Jack Cheeses Served with Assorted  
Rolls and Condiments And  
Quesadilla & Nacho Station

**NEW APPLICANTS****Jon R Hunt**

Vicki Hunt  
2449 N. Archery Way  
Meridian, ID 83646  
206-870-5584  
[arborhaven8342@gmail.com](mailto:arborhaven8342@gmail.com)

Jon and Vicki have owned registered Miniature Schnauzers since 1997 but only recently become interested in competing in Conformation. They believe in maintaining the breed standard and agree to comply with the Code of Ethics. They are not breeders and have never had a litter. They plan to attend many events in the future. Jon is a retired Dentist, currently instructing Dental hygiene and Vicki is a retired secretary. Although past dogs have been pets, they have purchased a show potential puppy that they are learning to groom and train. They are willing to help the club in any area that doesn't require technical/computer skills. **Sponsors are Wyoma Clouss and Carma Ewer**

**JANET C SMITH**

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Philadelphia, PA 19128  
[applehilllane@gmail.com](mailto:applehilllane@gmail.com)  
610-405-8778

Janet was a member of AMSC for many years and has recently lapsed. She is now re-applying. She has been involved with Miniature Schnauzers for twelve years and loves the breed. Her second Miniature Schnauzer was purchased from Linda Drost, Attaway kennel. She is not a breeder. She is retired and her dogs are Champion companions. She attends 4 or 5 events each year. Janet is interested in helping with the Health Committee. She also hopes to rejoin the Mt. Vernon Miniature Schnauzer Club. **Janet's sponsors are Silvia Soos-Kazel and Barbara Donahue**



Hmmm..Could tis be a cloudy  
Scotty?

**Kathy R LeJeune**

215 Back Acres Lane  
Iota, LA 70543  
337-254-9727  
[kridogstuff@gmail.com](mailto:kridogstuff@gmail.com)

Kathy has read and agrees to comply with the Code of Ethics and the Standard. She has bred one litter in the past 5 years. She is involved in Conformation, Agility, Obedience, Barn Hunt, Rally, FastCat/Coursing and Scent work. She attends approximately 25 events each year and belongs to Calcasieu KC where she serves on the Board of Directors, Performance Committee and is Rally, Obedience Trial Chair. She has had Australian Shepherds for over 20 years but always wanted a Miniature Schnauzer. She purchased a Mini and found him to be "so smart and so much fun" that she has fallen in love with the breed. Kathy would like to become a member to support the breed and educate other people.

She is interested in helping with the Newsletter, Education and Membership. **Sponsors are Lynn Tamms and Lyn Foster**



The Centennial State Miniature Schnauzer Club has calendars for sale. The calendars are the fundraiser for our yearly club activities. Please support the club and buy a calendar. Samples of pages are below. Many pages are frameable.

Cost \$25

If you are on Facebook, please PM the Centennial State Miniature Schnauzer Club for the address to send the check to or you can email me – Linda Wahlquist-Soos at [abacusminisch@earthlink.net](mailto:abacusminisch@earthlink.net) for the address.

## MCKC Hotel Reservation Links Are Live

It's mid February and time to be thinking about the AMSC Specialty Show at MCKC along with the Hatfield, Devon and Morris & Essex Shows. We are trying something different this year ...two hotels have been secured that are reasonable distances from the show sites, especially Morris & Essex.

Below is information about both hotels with links and phone numbers to make your hotel reservations.

Please share this information with your clubs as well as friends that enter the shows but may not be AMSC members.

Rates: \$129 - \$159 per night

Pet Fee: \$125 nonrefundable, onetime fee applies to multiple pets

Saturday, August 19, 2020 (but do not wait, book ASAP).

Call Front Desk to Book Your Room: 215-946-6500, identify yourself as a member of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club Group

NOTE: MCKC is a member of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club Group

### Homewood Suites Valley Forge

Address: 681 Shannondell Blvd., Audubon, PA 19403

Convenient to: Devon and MCKC

Rates: \$139 - \$199 per night (same rates as 2019)

Pet Fee: \$75 non-refundable per pet

Available Dates: Monday, September 29 - Saturday, October 6, 2020

Last Day to Book: Sunday, August 30, 2020

Link to Book Your Room: <https://tinyurl.com/shovrmp>

Call Front Desk To Book Your Room: at 610-539-7300, option "0" and book with the American Mini Schnauzer Club or with group code AMS.

NOTE: Primarily Studio and 1 Bedroom Suites; due to a new hotel policy, very

few 2 Bedroom Suites are contracted. If you are unable to reserve a

2 Bedroom Suite, check back with the hotel closer to the show dates,

as unsold suites will be made available at our discounted rate.

Should you have questions, feel free to contact me; 215-896-9666.

Barbara Donahue  
MCKC Hospitality



# AMSCOPE

Carla M. Borrelli, Editor  
1799 South Creek Road  
Derby, NY 14047-9729

## UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

### Lone Star MSC of Dallas July 2, 2020

Breed: Bergit Kabel

Sweeps: Betty Bossio

(NTEX cluster shows (4) July 2 thru July 5)

### Milshore MSC July 24, 2020

Sweeps: Dale Hafner

Regular Classes: David Kirkland # 1

John Bink #2

## AMSC SPECIALTIES

### Roving Specialty April 11, 2020

Sacramento, CA

Regular Classes - Sumiko Ikeda

Sweepstakes - Gail Wilford

### Montgomery County 2020

Regular classes - Mrs Bergit Kabel

Sweepstakes - Cheryl Coffman

### Roving - Grays Lake, Illinois June 20, 2021

Sweeps: Linda Drost

Regular: John P Wade

### Montgomery County October 3, 2021

Sweeps: Tatiana Myers

Regular: Bruce Schwartz

**FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:** The following information is given to help conduct AMSC business more efficiently. Please remember that the Secretary and the AMSCOPE editor should **BOTH** be notified of address changes, club officers and specialty results.

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